



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia  
12-20 August 2019

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**Japan Trust Fund Status Report**

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**WCPFC-SC15-2019/ RP-JTF-01**

**Secretariat**

**Introduction**

The majority of the WCPFC Members are developing states including Small Island Developing States (SIDS), whose implementation of conservation and management measures would benefit from strengthened capacity. The WCPFC Project on Capacity Building in Fisheries Statistics, Regulations and Enforcement for SIDS originates from a Japanese funding proposal to the WCPFC made in December 2005, the Japan Trust Fund (JTF). The primary objective of this project is to support capacity building of the developing countries of the WCPFC members, especially SIDS. Project implementation was planned to take place over 5 years starting from 2006 to 2011 with a total available funding of approximately USD 2 million.

Given the success of and general support for the project in its first 5-year phase, the Fisheries Agency of Japan sought and successfully secured a budget of around USD 2 million in total, for the second 5-year phase. The second phase objectives and terms of reference are similar to the previous phase, with an emphasis on enforcement and compliance. In 2016 the Japanese government granted an extension of one year to the second phase, supporting projects in 2017, which was further extended to include another year, 2018.

In 2018, the second extension year of the second phase, JTF donated \$139,297, and following a deduction of \$10,447.27 for administration costs, USD \$128,849.73 was available to fund projects. Eight proposals were received, of which three were deemed to be outside the scope of the current JTF, the remaining 5 projects are fully funded. The five projects approved for funding support were for three Tonga's, one Tuvalu's and one for WPEA project.

In 2019, the JTF is supported by a budget allocation of USD 232,821.00. Following a deduction of the Secretariat administrative fee (7.5%) of USD 17,461.58, the balance available for projects amounts to USD 215,359.42. Six proposals were received at first, requesting close to USD 345,000. The proposal funding requests were reduced by removing travel items that could be funded from other sources and withdrawal of one proposal from the Cook Islands. The five successful proposals are now fully supported, noting that some of the unspent funds from the JTF First Phase (USD 1,557.90) were utilized to supplement the 2019 Cook Islands project "Improving the participation and engagement in international fisheries forums". The details for the 2019 projects are outlined in **Attachment A**.

All projects conducted during the second and third phases of the JTF Project are found on the WCPFC website at <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/japan-trust-fund-summary-projects-2012-date>. Active projects carried over from previous years are in **Attachment B**, the progress of which will be considered at the JTF Steering Committee.

### Japan Trust Fund – Objectives and Expected Activities

The objectives and expected activities are well described in the Consolidated Project Document (2012), which provides guidelines for the Steering Committee to select project proposals:

#### *3. Objectives and expected activities*

*The basic objectives of this project are, within the purview of WCPFC, to assist SIDS Members, and other developing States Members as appropriate, in improving their capacities in:*

- (a) Data collection and reporting of their fisheries and associated activities, in particular, those required by WCPFC, and*
- (b) Establishment of fisheries regulation and its effective enforcement, in particular, the conservation and management measures adopted by WCPFC*

*In order to pursue these objectives, following activities may be implemented under the Project:*

- (a) Data collection and reporting of their fisheries and associated activities, in particular, those required by WCPFC:*
  - identify and examine the source of uncertainty in data collection and reporting*
  - develop and implement capacity-building programs to improve fisheries data collection and reporting*
  - assist if necessary WCPFC to facilitate appropriate opportunities (e.g., meetings, workshops) to consider improved data collection and reporting of their fisheries by developing States and their participation in the Commission.*
- (b) Establishment of fisheries regulation and its effective monitoring, control and enforcement, in particular, the requirements by WCPFC*
  - review enforcement and monitoring mechanisms in developing states Members in terms of legal, institutional and technical aspects and identify opportunities for strengthening these areas*
  - develop and implement capacity-building programs to improve fisheries monitoring regulation and enforcement by developing states members*
  - assist if necessary WCPFC to hold appropriate opportunities to consider improved enforcement by developing States under their jurisdiction and through their participation in the Commission*

## Attachment A

## 2019 Phase 3 Year 1 projects

#	Beneficiary Member(s)	Contacts	Title	Summary	US\$
1	Cook Islands	Mr Andrew Jones Senior Fisheries Officer <a href="mailto:A.Jones@mmr.gov.ck">A.Jones@mmr.gov.ck</a>	Development of National Competent Authority [HACCP strategy] for Cook Islands Offshore Fisheries.	This proposal seeks resourcing to support a comprehensive review of MMR's Competent Authority programmes to ensure that current systems respond to the needs of MMR's fisheries management framework.	74,500.00
2	Cook Islands	Ms Pamela Maru Secretary MMR <a href="mailto:P.Maru@mmr.gov.ck">P.Maru@mmr.gov.ck</a>	Improving the participation and engagement in international fisheries forums	MMR will implement a series of training sessions to engage and prepare staff to participate in regional fisheries meetings. This work supports professional development, including working with other Ministries training programs such as diplomatic protocols and negotiation, to ensure staff are adequately trained before they venture into international meetings to represent the Cook Islands.	62,886.10 <sup>1</sup>
3	Tonga	Dr Tuikolongahau Halafihi CEO for Fisheries <a href="mailto:ceo@tongafish.gov.to">ceo@tongafish.gov.to</a> Poasi Ngaluafe Deputy CEO, Compliance Division <a href="mailto:poasi66@hotmail.com">poasi66@hotmail.com</a> Ms. Kalolaine Manuopangi Observer Coordinator <a href="mailto:kmanuopangi@tongafish.gov.to">kmanuopangi@tongafish.gov.to</a>	LL Observer training	This project supports Tonga Observer operations. It will conduct PIRFO and MSC training.	23,500.00
4	Tonga	Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi CEO for Fisheries <a href="mailto:supi64t@gmail.com">supi64t@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:thalafihi@tongafish.gov.to">thalafihi@tongafish.gov.to</a> <a href="mailto:ceo@tongafish.gov.to">ceo@tongafish.gov.to</a> Dr. Siola'a Malimali, Head of Fisheries Science Division <a href="mailto:s.malimali@tongafish.gov.to">s.malimali@tongafish.gov.to</a> <a href="mailto:siolaamalimali@gmail.com">siolaamalimali@gmail.com</a> Mrs. Lavinia Vaipuna, Acting Head of Offshore Section	Port sampling and data collection.	This project builds on JTF funded support since 2010, The objective is to fund port sampling in Tonga for the year 2019.	48,776.22

<sup>1</sup> Total funding required to support this project is USD 64,444.00. USD 62,886.10 is available within the JTF 2019 Budget, the shortfall amounting to USD 1,557.90 is provided from unspent JTF carried over from the First Phase of the JTF.

		<a href="mailto:lavinia@tongafish.gov.to">lavinia@tongafish.gov.to</a>			
5	Tonga	Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi CEO for Fisheries <a href="mailto:supi64t@gmail.com">supi64t@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:thalafihi@tongafish.gov.to">thalafihi@tongafish.gov.to</a> <a href="mailto:ceo@tongafish.gov.to">ceo@tongafish.gov.to</a> Salote Koloamatangi, Legal Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, <a href="mailto:skoloamatangi2016@gmail.com">skoloamatangi2016@gmail.com</a>	Capacity building and strengthening of Tonga's Fisheries Legal Section	A capacity building program intended to facilitate the experiential training of Tonga's Fisheries Legal Section, especially their Legal Officer, to better enable them to support the implementation of WCPFC CMMs, work on FFA initiatives to regulate access to FFA members country waters and observer related activities.	5,697.10
	Sub-total			Sum of project budget requested	<b>\$215,359.42</b>
	WCPFC	Aaron Nighswander <a href="mailto:aaron.nighswander@wcpfc.int">aaron.nighswander@wcpfc.int</a>	7.5% admin fee	Overhead	\$232,821.00 x 0.075 = \$17,461.58
	Grand Total			Total JTF for 2019	<b>\$232,821.00</b>

## Carried-over projects from previous years

ID	Beneficiary Member(s)	Contacts	Title	Summary	US\$
4	Tuvalu	Mr. Samasoni Finikaso, <a href="mailto:samfinikaso70@gmail.com">samfinikaso70@gmail.com</a> Mr. Solomua Ionatana, <a href="mailto:tualen@gmail.com">tualen@gmail.com</a>	Capacity Building training for Tuvalu Fisheries and Maritime Police officers to conduct High Seas Boarding Inspections (HSBI).	This project will enhance the capacity of fisheries and Police Maritime personnel to conduct boarding Inspections in the High Seas in accordance with WCPFC Boarding and Inspection Procedures (CMM 2006-08); by the end of the project the officers will fully understand HSBI procedures and the application of the CMM 2006-08 in the WCPF Convention area	15,000.00
<b>Status</b> Tuvalu has completed its project, but due to support from other external funding, there is an underspend of AUS\$16,668.61. The Steering Committee with advice from the JTF Coordinator accepted the Tuvalu proposal to utilize remaining funds by extending the project into 2019 and conducting a second workshop with the same objectives to the first.					
1	Fiji	Mrs Alitia Bainivalu <a href="mailto:Bainivalu.alitia@gmail.com">Bainivalu.alitia@gmail.com</a>	The Fiji Port Monitoring Exercise	The Fiji Port Monitoring Exercise aims to track the movement of fish from the vessels, to onshore facilities and onward to the final destination. The project will provide useful information related to chain of custody, provide checks against other fisheries data and reporting and help to close loopholes in the current landing levy system.	43,037.66
<b>Status</b> A destructive cyclone in the first part of the year led the government of Fiji to reassign all fisheries budgets to support relief measures; subsequently a new accounting system has been established and the JTF project has not yet commenced. Detailing some technical/logistical difficulties in conducting the project as currently proposed it was requested that a revised proposal be submitted with the same overall objectives, but with an extension to allow sufficient time to prepare staff for the project. The JTF Coordinator expressed sympathy to Fiji and recognizing the delivery challenges requested the project manager to submit by email formal requests with revised proposals, and a decision would be made following consultation with JTF in Japan. A revised proposal was subsequently accepted by JTF Japan. The Fiji Government has been operating an 'Open Merit Recruitment System' process; which is repositioning staff positions. Once the recruitment process is complete project staff can be appointed. To date the funds have not been used and Fiji has requested an extension to complete the project in 2017. Japan supported this request with the caveat that there is no substantial change in the project itself. Following internal ministerial reforms Fiji has proposed changes to their project and will be seeking an extension into 2018-2019. This request submitted just prior to SC14, will be discussed during the JTF Steering Committee Meeting in the margins of the Scientific Committee Meeting.					
2	Nauru	Charleston Deiye <a href="mailto:cdeiye@gmail.com">cdeiye@gmail.com</a>	Capacity building and transfer of technology on at sea boarding and inspection procedures for Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA) vessel operators in Nauru's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).	NFMRA is keen to build the capacity of NFMRA officers in-country to improve its ability in conducting at-sea boarding and inspection within its area of jurisdiction to contribute to the conservation and management measures of fisheries resources of the region. Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conduct training for NFMRA officers on best practice of at-sea boarding and inspection procedures.</li> <li>To develop Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) for NFMRA on at-sea boarding and inspection.</li> <li>To advise NFMRA on gears and equipment necessary for NFMRA officers in conducting at-sea boarding and inspection.</li> </ul>	12,519.50
<b>Status</b> An extension was granted to conduct the work in 2016. Nauru expected the arrival in April 2017 of trailers for their multi-purpose boats, and thereafter they would be able to launch/retrieve the boats to and from the sea safely; then the projects at-sea boarding and inspection training would proceed. An extension of the project into 2017 has been granted by Japan. To date the project funds have not been utilized; Nauru has taken delivery of the trailers but has been hit by another setback due to the unseaworthiness of their boats. JTF recognising the importance of safety at sea has granted a further extension into 2018 to allow the boats to be overhauled and project conducted.					